

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. B-4388

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic 213 West Saratoga Street

and/or common Harry's Goldmine

2. Location

street & number 213 W. Saratoga Street ☐ not for publication

city, town Baltimore ☐ vicinity of ☐ congressional district Seventh

state Maryland ☐ county Baltimore

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Agnes L. Frenkil

street & number 4000 N. Charles Street, Apt. 702 telephone no.: MD 21201

city, town Baltimore state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds Baltimore City Courthouse liber

street & number 100 N. Calvert Street, Room 610 folio

city, town Baltimore state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

te ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. B-4388

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Resource Count: 1

This circa 1875 shed-roofed commercial building faces north on W. Saratoga Street and abuts two partywall buildings. The two-bay, three-story building is part of a large brick commercial block. This section, defined by seams in the brick work and fenestration, has a street frontage of 11' and a depth of 120'.

The first story has been altered circa 1940-1950. It is remodelled into an angled, glazed wall with the entrance to the east and display window to the west. The wall surface is covered with fluted aluminum siding. A roll-down theft guard is suspended over the first story. A signboard runs the width of the facade below the second-story windows.

The second story contains a central tripartite window. Narrow sidelights flank a double-width central plate. All the windows are large sheets of plate glass. A row of three hinged transoms runs above the windows. The lintel has a profile of fillet, ogee, two fillets, and back band. Jig-sawn corner blocks are placed underneath the extended lintel.

The third story has two 1/1 sash windows with stone sills and brick splayed jack arches.

Scrolled brackets with jig-sawn ornaments on the projecting arms support the projecting cornice that has a profile of fillet, ogee, bead, and back band. Below the cornice runs a row of raised molding in a foliated pattern. Below the molding runs a scalloped, jig-sawn back band. This cornice and entablature is flanked by large brackets at the ends. The brackets are grooved and dotted with beads. A raised stringcourse runs across the foot of the giant brackets.

The interior is finished with wallboard and an acoustic tile ceiling.

8. Significance

Survey No. B-4388

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
— prehistoric	— archeology-prehistoric	— community planning	— landscape architecture
— 1400-1499	— archeology-historic	— conservation	— law
— 1500-1599	— agriculture	— economics	— literature
— 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	— education	— military
— 1700-1799	— art	— engineering	— music
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	— exploration/settlement	— philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	— communications	— industry	— politics/government
		— invention	— religion
			— science
			— sculpture
			— social/
			— humanitarian
			— theater
			— transportation
			— other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect	unknown
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D		
and/or		
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G		
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local		

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This two-bay, three-story building is a good example of speculative commercial block construction along Saratoga Street during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. It is part of a series of partywall structures with similar cornices and massing, but the units are separated by a brick seam indicating separate stages of construction, and there are separate entrances and separate alterations to each of the row buildings.

The building's style and massing are representative of the late nineteenth-century rowhouses and partywall structures on the block. A few elements of Victorian fashion are still visible on the upper stories. The cornice (which is identical to several within the row) is typical of the period. The cornice's modestly overhanging eaves are supported by small modillion brackets and bay-defining scrolled brackets and a scalloped barge board below, a common way of decoratively capping the top of a building.

The presence of a mixed residential-commercial buildings indicates the mixed character of this Baltimore neighborhood in the nineteenth century. Architectural historian Richard Longstreth writes that "Shop-houses prevailed in emerging commercial centers of cities and towns alike through the early decades of the 19th century. Examples can still be seen in areas that have not experienced radical change, even though the shopfronts themselves have almost always been altered. . . the upper section retaining a domestic character."¹ This building, however, shows a new experimental aesthetic and planning device at work. Longstreth continues, "the gradual abandonment of the shop-house as the dominant form of commercial architecture was due to the ever-increasing demands for trade and professional services along with a corresponding increase in land values, all of which fostered the design of buildings used entirely for commercial purposes."²

¹ Longstreth, Buildings of Main Street, p. 24.

² Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street, pp. 24, 29.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Richard Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street (Washington: Preservation Press, 1987).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Baltimore East Quad

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diane Shaw, Architectural Historianorganization CHAP, Room 1037 date December 22, 1991street & number 417 E. Fayette Street telephone 301-396-4866city or town Baltimore state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
301-514-7600

B-4388

213 West Saratoga Street

Baltimore, MD

Section 8 Significance

8.1

In this case, the commercial solution was to retain the basic shop-house form but create a commercial second-story reading. The tripartite window in the second story, complete with its row of transoms, millwork lintel and corner brackets, is an early Victorian experiment in commercial architecture. The large expanse of framed plate glass and row of transoms invoked the nineteenth-century street-level shopfront and could be used as display windows for the second-story merchant's wares. While the overall shell of the building retains the previous nineteenth-century shop-house form, the tripartite window shows an attempt to make a commercial statement from a residential building type. Before there was a clear definition of a commercial building type there was this early, experimental form. The presence of two entrances indicates that the building was constructed to hold more than one tenant, another sign that the old shop-house idea had passed. The third story, however, could have still been used as dwelling quarters.

The twentieth-century alterations to the facade include the circa 1940s shopfront. The angled facade running towards a recessed entrance was popular during the period: the recessed entrance permitted additional display areas along the vestibule wall and the slant of the facade wall "drew" the sidewalk traffic in.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization:
Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:
Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
Modern Period, 1930-present, alterations

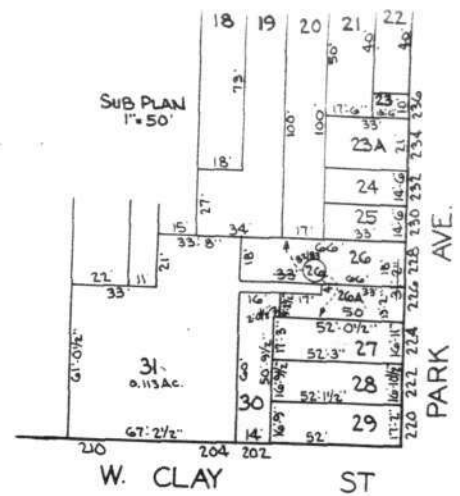
Historic Period Themes:
Architecture
Economics

Resource Type:
Building

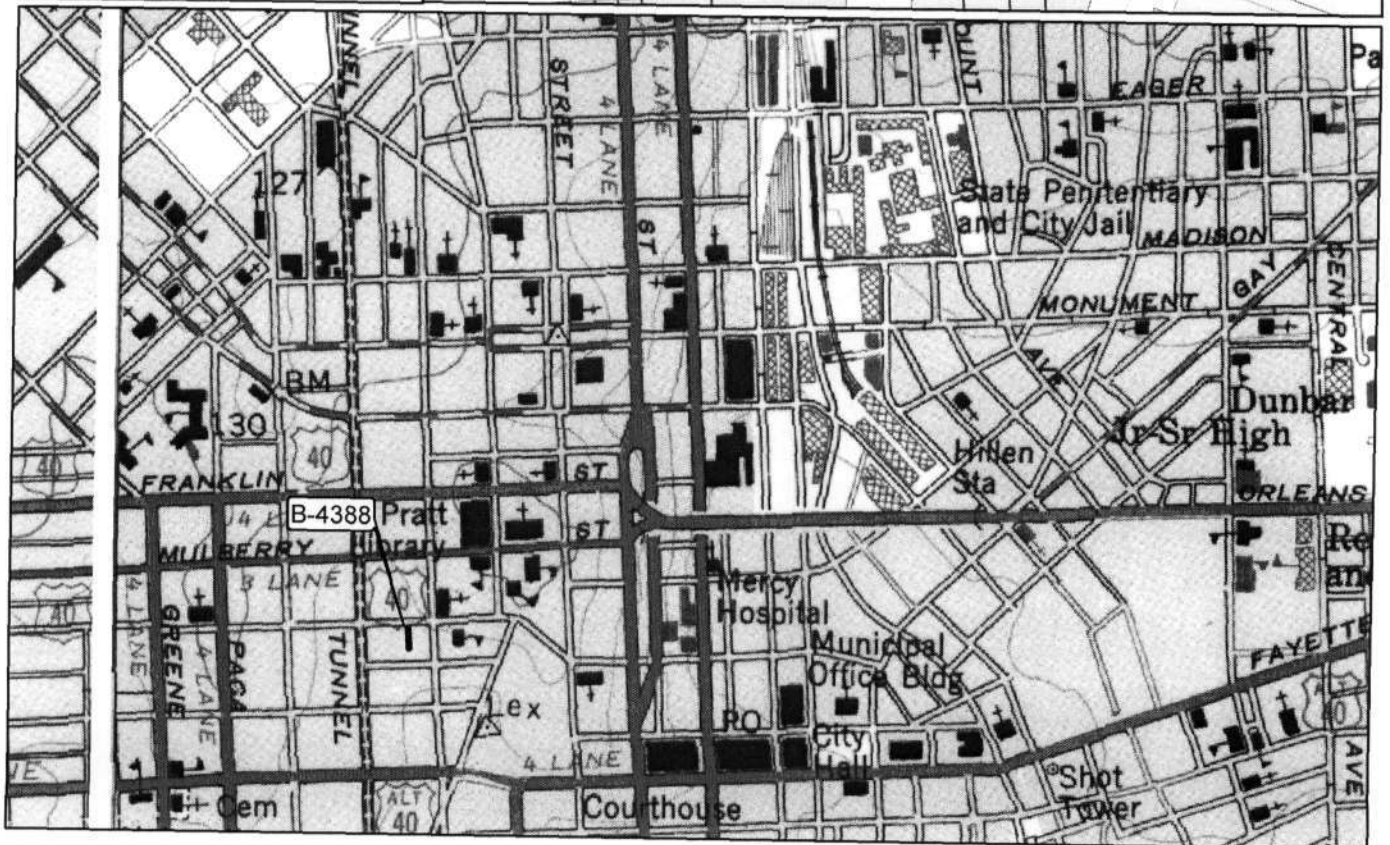
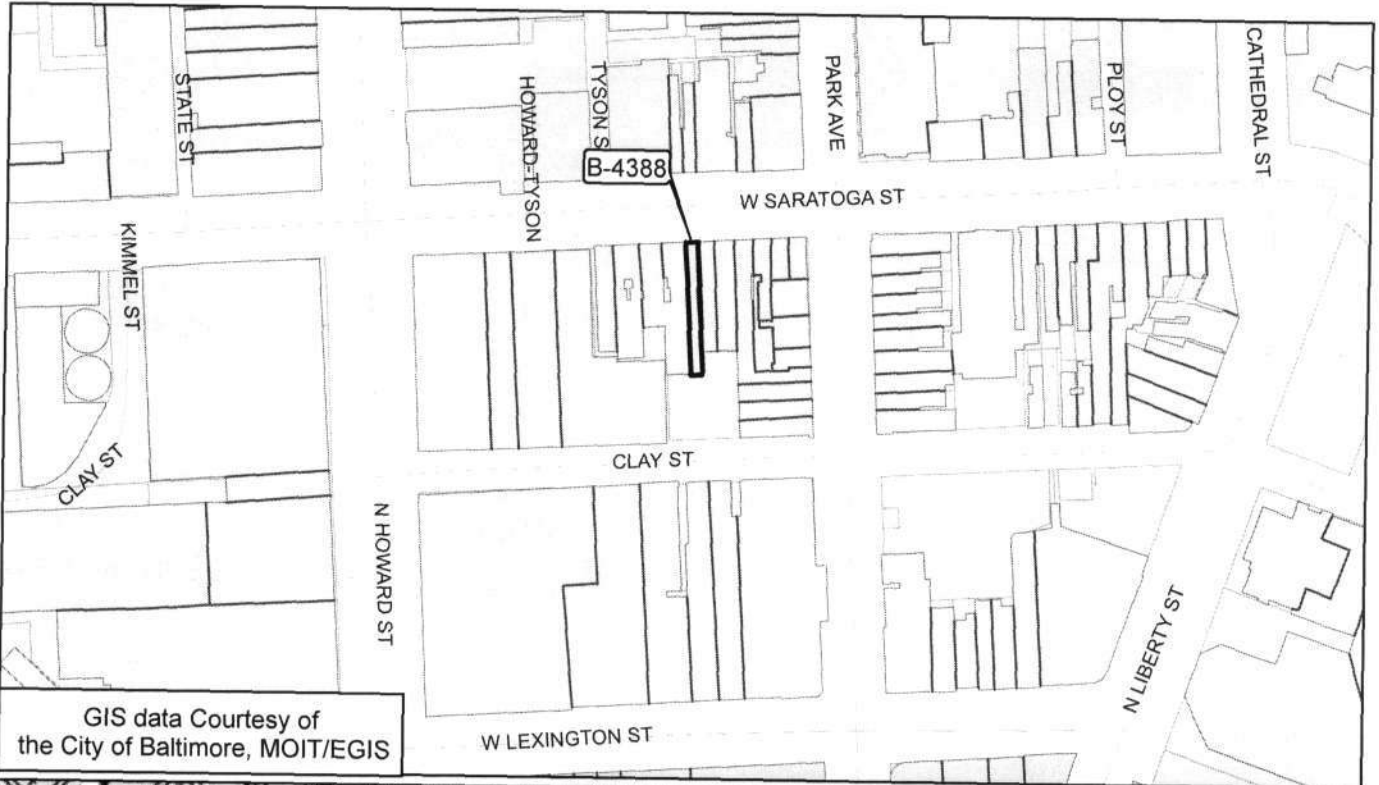
Historic Environment:
Urban

Historic Function and Use:
Commercial

Known Design Source:
None



B-4388
Harry's Goldmine
213 W. Saratoga Street
Block 0597, Lot 016
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-4388

213 W Saratoga St.
Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

8/91

Maryland SHPO

Facade, north elevation

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